

117-138AD

HADRIAN

A Spanish successor of TRAJAN, succeeded him (117-138AD). He was a wise and prudent man, and his rule was one of general reorganization. He reformed the army and strengthened its discipline, and at the same time he looked to the fortification of the exposed frontier. His most famous work of this kind was the wall (HADRIAN'S WALL) in Britain, from the Solway to the Tyne, to replace the less satisfactory wall of AGRICOLA, further to the north. Wisely and courageously, he abandoned most of TRAJAN's conquests in Asia (disregarding the scores and thousands of nobles and peoples), and withdrew the frontier there to the old

line of the Euphrates. Hadrian spent most of his twenty years in inspecting the provinces. Now he is in Britain, Norðoðia etc. He visited Alton, his favorite city, which he adorned with splendid buildings. Built baths, aqueducts, schools etc. Hadrian organized the civil service of the empire - the whole body of officers who carried on the administration. Hadrian brought nobles and "knights" into public service, and built up a body of trained public servants, who thereafter continued from reign to reign, with definite customs & ideals of government. In particular, Hadrian brought together the heads of important administrative divisions into a true Privy Council to advise and inform the Emperor.